

REMARKS

The applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 19-34 and 41-50.

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.116 and MPEP 714.12, Amendments After Final Rejection, claims 35, 54, 55, 57, 77, and 78 have been amended so that they, and the claims depending therefrom, are allowable. Specifically, claim 35 was amended to include the elements of claim 53 (and intervening claims 51 and 52), which was determined to contain allowable subject matter by the Office. Claims 54 and 55, which were also directed to allowable subject matter, were amended to depend from claim 35. Similarly, claim 57 was amended to include the elements of claim 76 (and intervening claims 74 and 75), which was determined to contain allowable subject matter by the Office. Claims 77 and 78 were amended to depend from claim 57.

Claims 51-53 and 74-76 have been cancelled because the elements therein have been added to claims 35 and 57, respectively, as described above.

In view of the foregoing, entry of the amendment after final rejection is respectfully requested because claims 19-34, 35-50, 54-73, 77, and 78 are in a condition for allowance thereby furthering prosecution of the application and expediting issuance of a patent.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office over the rejection of claims 35-40, 51, 52, and 56-75 as set forth in the outstanding Office action. As such, the applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to any subject matter cancelled by this amendment.

MEMC 98-1451/2554.1
PATENT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven M. Ritchey, Reg. No. 46,321
SENNIGER, POWERS, LEAVITT & ROEDEL
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

Express Mail Label No. EV272753204US